

## **PUBLIC HEARING ON**

### **Redesignation Request for the Missouri Portion of the St. Louis Unclassifiable Area for the 2012 Annual Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) Standard**

Missouri is proposing to submit to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a request to redesignate the Missouri portion of the St. Louis unclassifiable area to attainment under the 2012 annual fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) standard. The original unclassifiable designation for the area was due to monitoring data completeness issues on the Illinois side of the area. These issues have been resolved, and the Missouri and Illinois portions of the area are demonstrating compliance with the standard based on 2015-2017 quality-assured, certified ambient PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring data. This request is in accordance with Section 107(d)(3)(D) of the Clean Air Act.

The entire proposed request has not been reprinted in the briefing document. However, the Executive Summary is included for reference. The entire proposed redesignation request is available for review at the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Air Pollution Control Program, 1659 East Elm Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101, (573) 751-4817. It is also available online at <http://dnr.mo.gov/env/apcp/stateplanrevisions.htm>

If the commission adopts this redesignation request, the air program intends to submit this request to EPA for approval. The air program will not be submitting this action for inclusion in the Missouri State Implementation Plan.

## Executive Summary

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Air Pollution Control Program (air program) is requesting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to redesignate the Missouri portion of the St. Louis area from its current designation of unclassifiable to attainment for the 2012 annual fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). The three-year design values for all ambient PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors in the St. Louis area demonstrate compliance with the 2012 annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS based on complete, quality-assured, and certified ambient air quality monitoring data.

EPA designated the Missouri portion of the St. Louis area, as well as the entire state of Illinois, as unclassifiable for the 2012 annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS on January 15, 2015.<sup>1</sup> In this action, EPA defined the 2012 annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> St. Louis MO-IL unclassifiable area to include Franklin, Jefferson, St. Charles, and St. Louis Counties along with the City of St. Louis on the Missouri side, and Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair Counties as well as the Baldwin Township of Randolph County on the Illinois side. The initial designation of unclassifiable for the St. Louis areas was due to data completeness issues with the ambient PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring data in the state of Illinois. Although all monitors in Missouri were attaining the standard at the time of the initial designations, the lack of complete monitoring data in Illinois prevented EPA from being able to determine whether violations of the standard were occurring in the Illinois portion of the St. Louis area or whether emission sources in Missouri were contributing to any violations in Illinois.

By the beginning of 2015, Illinois had corrected the issues leading to the data completeness problems that formed the basis for the unclassifiable designation for the area. However, monitors must have three years of complete, quality assured, and certified data before they have a valid design value for the PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard. Therefore, the 2015-2017 three-year period was the earliest that any monitor on the Illinois side of the area could have a valid design value. Now that all the monitors in the area have valid design values, the basis for the unclassifiable area designation no longer exists. All monitors in the area in both Missouri and Illinois comply with the 2012 PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard, supporting a redesignation from unclassifiable to attainment.

The air program is submitting this redesignation request to EPA in accordance with section 107(d)(3)(D) of the CAA, which provides the statutory authority and requirements pertaining to designations and redesignations for area with respect to a NAAQS.

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<sup>1</sup> See 80 FR 2206, January 15, 2015